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the deer, and a few of the axes are provided with handles restored after the original patterns, these last having been, in almost every instance, too much decomposed for preservation. There are one hundred and seventy-eight objects belonging to the Age of Bronze, consisting of fragments of pottery, various implements of bronze, such as axes, spear and arrow points, sword blades, fish hooks, pins of various dimensions, pendants and other personal ornaments."

Besides these have been added the collection of the Boston Marine Society, the Thoreau collection, made chiefly about Concord, Mass., a collection of about a hundred objects of stone and pottery from Nicaragua, and a vast collection of Alaskan objects, mostly the work of coast Indians, known as Thlinkets, or more commonly as Kalooshes. "Nearly all the carvings in bone, horn and wood are of the most elaborate and skilfully wrought patterns." These carvings are of unusual interest in connection with the pre-historic carvings by the Reindeer Folk of the caves of France, of which there are specimens in this museum. Indeed, we now have in this country a remarkably full series of the pre-historic remains of Europe, and with the magnificent series of American remains, within the last two or three years placed on exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution, we have nearly as good materials as in Europe for the study of pre-historic man.

Prof. Wyman gives a brief account of his explorations in Florida, especially among the shell heaps. Among the bones, some of the tibiae "were very much flattened from side to side, as has been observed to be the case with some from other parts of the United States, and in the Old World, from the caves of Dordogne and Gibraltar."

PEABODY ACADEMY OF SCIENCE.\*—The second and third annual reports contain an account of the dedication of the Museum in 1869. In an appendix to the reports of the Director, is a note by Mr. Hyatt on a cuttlefish (*Rossia palpebrosa* Owen?) found at Manchester, Mass., where this species has long been used for bait by fishermen. It has not before been met with except in the Arctic regions. The appendix also contains a "Catalogue of Batrachia and Reptilia obtained by J. A. McNeil in Nicaragua," in which Prof. Cope describes as new to science, a lizard, *Tretioscinc-*

\* Second and Third Annual Reports of the Trustees of the Peabody Academy of Science, for the years 1869 and 1870. Salem, 1871. 8vo, pp. 109.

*cus laevicaudus*, and a new genus and species of snakes, *Enulius murinus*. In the "Catalogue of Reptilia and Batrachia obtained by C. J. Maynard in Florida," Prof. Cope describes a new lizard, *Plistodon onocrepis* Cope, and a new salamander, *Manculus remifer*. Dr. Packard in a "List of Insects collected at Pebas, Ecuador, and presented by Prof. James Orton" describes as new *Attacus Amazonia*. Mr. Smith in the "List of the Crustacea collected by J. A. McNeil in Central America," describes a number of new crabs: *Leptopodia debilis*, *Ozius integer*, *Arenaeus bidens*, *Gebia spinissima*, *Atya rivalis*, *A. tenella*, *Evatya* (n. g.) *crassa*, *Leander gracilis* and *Palæmon tenellus*.

CORALS AND POLYPS OF THE WEST COAST OF AMERICA.\*—Of this elaborate work, with its careful and detailed descriptions and most excellent illustrations, we can only give the author's general results, both from want of space, as well as a knowledge of the subject. Two years ago Prof. Verrill called attention to the remarkable contrast between the assemblages of polyps found on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Central America, and the bearing of these facts upon the supposed former connection between the two oceans, across the Isthmus of Panama. He is now able to state that "the additional forms now presented make these contrasts still greater and more remarkable, and add greater force to the evidence then brought forward to show that no deep or extensive water connection, sufficient to modify the ocean currents, can have taken place since the existence of the species now living upon each coast."

"The polyps of Panama prove to be remarkably rich in sea fans (Gorgonaceae), no less than forty-three species having been already obtained. Of these the genus *Muricea* appears here to attain to its greatest development, since fifteen species, besides several peculiar varieties, perhaps distinct, are in our collection from Panama Bay, and others from Acapulco and Peru, while from the West Indies there are but four well-ascertained species." "The occurrence of two peculiar, gigantic species of *Pavonia*, a genus

\*Notes on Radiata in the Museum of Yale College. By A. E. Verrill. No. 6.—Review of the Corals and Polyps of the West Coast of America (with 6 plates). No. 7.—Geographical Distribution of the Polyps and Corals of the West Coast of America. No. 8.—Additional Observations on Echinoderms, chiefly from the Pacific Coast of America. No. 9.—The Echinoderm-fauna of the Gulf of California and Cape St. Lucas. (From the Transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences. Vol. 1.) March 1871. 8vo, pp. 219.